

# West Nile Virus: Risk to Hawaiian Birds



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Hawaii amakihi *Hemignathus virens*

## Objectives:

- ★ Assess the risk of endemic Hawaiian honeycreepers to WNV
- ★ Determine the relative competence of Hawaiian mosquitoes for West Nile Virus
- ★ Determine the susceptibility of Hawaii amakihi to WNV

## Accomplishments:

- ★ Completed WNV experiments at the NWHC in Madison, WI
- ★ Documented morbidity and mortality in Hawaii amakihi
- ★ Determined that Hawaiian mosquitoes are competent vectors

## Significance:

- ★ West Nile Virus could severely impact Hawaiian avifauna such as rare Hawaii honeycreepers
- ★ The introduction of new pathogens is further reason to control vectors